

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the subparagraph at page 3, lines 23-26, with the following rewritten subparagraph:

the heat treatment of the strip is carried out at a rate V1 of greater than 10°C/s , a soak temperature T between 1050 and 1150°C , a soak time M between 1 s and 120 s and said strip is cooled at a rate V2 of greater than ~~10°C/s~~ 10°C/s down to a temperature of 200°C or below;

Replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 3-10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To obtain a dull surface appearance employing the annealing/pickling process, a strip, cold-rolled beforehand, is heated at a heating rate of 10°C/s in order to bring it to a temperature of 1100°C in a furnace that is not isolated from the external atmosphere. The strip is maintained at this temperature for about 5 s and then cooled down to ambient temperature at a rate of 20°C/s by an air quench followed by a water quench. Finally, the strip is pickled by immersing it in several electrolytic pickling baths and then in a bath based on hydrofluoric acid.